

Application No.: 10/091,942

Docket No.: JCLA8556

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action rejected claims 1-5, 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over the Applicant's Prior Art Figure 6 (APAF) in view of Lebowitz (U.S. 4,694,561, hereafter Lebowitz). Further, the Office Action objected claims 6, 29 and 30 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent from including all of the limitation of the base claim and intervening claims. In addition, the Office Action allowed claims 10-13.

In response, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate all the limitations of original claims 5 and 6. Claims 5, 6, and 9 have been canceled. Applicant has also added new claim 31 which contains all the limitations of original claims 1, 5, 28, and 29. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-13, and 28-31 remain pending in the present application. No new matter adds through the amendment.

Discussion of Objections

Misnumbered claims 14-16 have been renumbered 28-30. Applicants respectfully submit that these objections have been properly addressed, and should be withdrawn.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

Claims 1-5, 7-9 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over the Applicant's Prior Art Figure 6 (APAF) in view of Lebowitz (U.S. 4,694,561).

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The contents of claims 5 and 6 have been incorporated into claim 1 according to the suggestion of Examiner, therefore, the amended claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-4, 7-8, and 28-30 are allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections have been properly addressed, and should be withdrawn.

New Claim

New claim 31 contains all the limitations of original claims 1, 5, 28, and 29, therefore, as indicated in the Office Action, it is allowable.

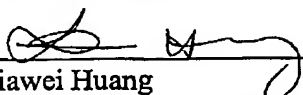
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-13 and 28-31 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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